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REPORTS
OF
THE SELECTMEN
AND
Supt'g School Committee,
OF THE
TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, N. H.,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
MARCH 1, 1874.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE TOWN.

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REPORT OF The Selectmen of Chesterfield.

Receipts on account of	
Town tax 1867,	\$6 00
" " 1872,	1,260 00
Interest on taxes 1872,	20 00
" " " 1871,	8 77
Highway tax 1872,	7 55— \$1,302 32
Cash in the treasury,	24 01
John Kelley for aid,	2 10
Witness fees, collected on mountain road,	10 00
State bonds in the treasury,	1,000 00
Interest on state bonds,	60 00
Loans for use of town,	700 00
County Pauper claim,	153 00
Assessments for the year 1873,	7,268 44
Railroad tax,	17 26
Savings Bank tax,	543 06
Literary fund,	105 78
For use of Town Hall,	27 00
Sale of Betsy Wetherbee's goods,	58 00
Interest,	2 85
Bounty Claim,	140 00
	<hr/>
	\$11,413 82

PAYMENTS.

On account of town debts.	
Town notes,	\$1,229 74
Town bond,	220 00
Interest on town bonds,	132 00— \$1,581 74

TOWN PAUPERS.

For Humphrey G. Albee, 1872,	\$35 00
" " " " 1873,	130 00
" John Black,	104 00
" Oscar Frink's family,	5 00— \$274 00

COUNTY PAUPERS.

For Charles Smith,	\$153 00	
“ transient persons,	5 00—	\$158 00

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

For bridge plank and timber,	\$155 59	
“ labor,	153 50—	\$309 09

TOWN OFFICERS.

For services of Selectmen,	\$190 00	
“ “ “ collector of taxes,	50 00	
“ “ “ Supt. School Committee,	40 00	
“ “ “ Town Treasurer,	25 00	
“ “ “ Town Clerk,	33 00	
“ “ “ Moderator,	2 00	
“ “ “ Constable, 1871—72 and 73,	9 00—	\$349 00

TOWN HOUSE.

For ringing bell and care of house,	\$15 00	
For oil, wood and repairs,	16 38—	\$31 38

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

No. 1,	\$158 19	
“ 2,	121 35	
“ 3,	88 63	
“ 4,	95 97	
“ 5,	166 40	
“ 6,	86 29	
“ 7,	100 84	
“ 8,	89 05	
“ 9,	100 84	
“ 10,	129 59	
“ 11,	76 70	
“ 12,	76 34	
“ 13,	213 26	
“ 14,	77 19	
“ 15,	65 11—	\$1,645 75

MISCELLANEOUS.

Stationery and postage,	\$10 84	
Record of births and deaths,	10 00	
Service of agent with hearse,	7 50	
Damage done by dogs,	50 00	
County tax,	946 84	

State tax,	2,112 00	
Non-resident highway receipts,	51 54	
Dicount on taxes paid prior to Oct. 1st,	278 18	
Expenses on pauper business and team work,	59 30	
Expense of building new road,	97 55	
Land damage to Ellen M. White,	100 00—	\$3,723 75
Land damage to Alexander Chandler,	25 00	
Expense of suite with Brokers, 1872,	32 00	
Expense of trial with Brokers, 1873,	188 79	
Repairing cemetery,	5 00	
Counsel,	6 00	
Town reports, 1872,	14 00	
George Johnson, over tax, 1870—'71 and '72,	10 55	
Over tax and abatements, 1873,	11 40	
Interest on temporary loans,	5 45	
Fred B. Pierce, surveying,	3 00	
State bonds in the treasury,	1,000 00	
Due on tax book, 1873,	2,039 92—	\$11,413 82

STATE OF THE TREASURY, MARCH 1, 1874.

LIABILITIES.

Town notes payable,	\$6,868 63	
Town bonds,	2,024 55	
Dog tax, money,	124 00—	\$9,017 18

ASSETS.

Tax bill 1869,	\$2 10	
“ “ 1870,	9 40	
“ “ 1871,	10 81	
“ “ 1872,	98 22	
“ “ 1873,	2,039 92	
State bonds,	1,000 00	
County pauper claim,	5 00—	\$3,165 45
Town indebtedness,		5,851 73

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 1874.

State tax,	\$1,408 00	
County tax,	898 33	
Schools,	1,540 00	
Town charges,	1,200 00	
Interest on debt,	481 03—	\$5,527 36

Respectfully submitted,

MURRAY DAVIS,	}	Selectmen of Chesterfield.
AMOS R. HUBBARD,		
GEORGE S. FLETCHER,		

A Report of the Schools in Chesterfield for 1873--4.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:

With few exceptions, our Schools have been favored with efficient teachers the past year. Rarely have our Schools been favored with a greater number of good teachers in one year, and *burdened* with so few *unprofitable* ones.

I proceed to report each district in particular.

DISTRICT No. 1. The Summer term was in care of Miss Flora Hubbard. Her scholars were carefully and faithfully instructed, and did honor to themselves and teacher at the close.

The Winter term was in care of Mr. G. F. Burnham, a teacher of matured experience. His scholars understood and performed well the duties of the school room. No special preparation was made for examination. Classes were called up in their every day suit, and yet showed themselves in moderate mathematical accuracy. A little more visible enthusiasm might have added interest to the occasion. We thank Parents and Citizens for their call at the closing exercises.

No. 2. Summer term in care of Miss Lizzie Safford, who acquitted herself well in this first effort in teaching. Her *oral* instruction to a small class was above par.

Winter term in care of Miss Eliza Wheeler, a teacher of reputed skill and fidelity. The examination of this school was a full proof that her pupils had made their studies a daily pleasure and profit.

No. 3. Summer term was in care of Miss Ella Smith. Things went pleasantly in this school, and the term seemed to have been a profitable one. A little more of the leading spirit would have increased the good.

Winter term in care of Mr. Olin Farr. This, his first experiment of teaching, was highly successful. Classes were well trained. We had a fine specimen of *reading naturally*;—"talking out of a book." We had a room full of parents and citizens present at the closing exercises; thanks for the respect shown us.

No. 4. Summer term in care of Miss Gertie Robertson, who labored for this school with good acceptance and success. Some *oral* instruction to the little ones of this school was a treat.

Winter term was in the care of Miss Lizzie Safford, a prompt and faithful teacher. All the members of this school who loved their books and *the duties of the school room*, made good progress in study.

No. 5. Summer term began under the care of Mrs. Emily Darling; but by reason of her health failing, it soon closed.

Winter term in care of Miss Lucy Wakefield, who has from the first shown a happy combination of school-room qualities. This school is yet in session, and in successful operation and promise, "as we go to press."

No. 6. Both terms of this school were in the care of Miss Luella Franklin. Though a beginner in the art of teaching, she showed a happy interest in her work, and helped her pupils along finely in their studies. Some *oral* instruction was well given to the little ones.

No. 7. Both terms were *kept* by Miss Nancy Holbrook. I was not able to visit this school at close of Summer term. The 2d term began and continued several weeks without the *knowledge or approbation* of your committee. At the close of this term, some of the classes gave signs of industry and progress in study; others appeared very much in the dark. "Where is wisdom to be found" for the future?

No. 8. Summer term was in care of Miss Augusta Peirce, a teacher of large experience, who was both thorough and profitable to her pupils. Some *oral* instruction to the little ones was fine.

Winter term in care of Mr. W. G. Covey, an experienced and profitable teacher. I was not able to be present at the close; but have a good report from parents and scholars of the district.

No. 9. Summer term in care of Miss Abbie Stark. Energy, fidelity and good progress in study, characterized her school.

Winter term in care of Mr. C. Wellington, who was quite successful in his first effort in teaching. Scholars loved their teacher, loved their books, and improved well their time.

No. 10. Both terms of this school were in the care of the same teacher, Miss Julia Davis, who made herself quite useful to her pupils. The close of this school showed a gratifying progress in study, especially in reading. We thank the parents, so many of them, for their call, and interest expressed.

No. 11. Both terms of this school were in the hands of Miss Cora Hubbard, quite a youthful teacher; but well adapted and useful to this little school.

No. 12. Summer term in care of Miss Emily Beckley, who made a very honorable beginning in the art of teaching. She was faithful and useful to this little school.

Winter term was in care of Miss Emma Snow, who was skillful in her work, and did all that could be done for this school in the short term of *five weeks*.

No. 13. Summer term in care of Miss Alice Holman, an experienced teacher. It was a happy and successful term. Yet, if some of the classes had been required to study and invent their own answers a little more, it might have been better for them.

Winter term of Primary Department, in care of Miss Anna Chamberlain, who was quite successful in teaching the little ones in their lessons, and guiding them in their manners.

Senior Department in care of Miss Jennie Buffum, who was skillful in teaching and efficient in government. She was happily useful to this school. Thanks to so many parents and citizens for their call at the closing exercises.

No. 14. Miss Emma Falkner had charge of this school both terms. Her combined school-room qualities made her services highly valuable to this school. Some *oral* lessons to the little ones were pleasant and useful. We thank so many parents for their presence at the closing exercises.

No. 15. This little school was kept together, the Summer term, by Miss Ella Grimes, who did all she was able to do for her pupils, and was in a measure useful.

Winter term in care of Miss Alice Holman, who instructed *three scholars* for seven weeks, with all the ability and faithfulness needed.

SUMMARY.

We have employed twenty-three different teachers for the year. *Fourteen* of these belong in town. *Two* have taught two successive terms in different districts. *Five* have taught two successive terms in the same district. *One* has taught three successive *Winter* terms in the same district. Three male teachers only have been employed.

QUALIFICATION OF TEACHERS.

Every teacher of a school needs a variety of qualities, and ability to apply them in all variety of circumstances. Every child in the school room is not to be treated alike, any more than one medicine is to be used for all diseases. One child is of a mild and yielding disposition; another is self-willed. One is quick to learn; another slow. A true teacher will know where to press, and where to lighten the burden; when to loosen and when to tighten the reign; when to help and when to let the scholar help himself.

One prime quality of a school teacher is a *love* for the employment, as the sailor loves his *ship* more than a *barn*; and as the farmer loves his *barn* more than a *ship*. He is happy in his own element.

Verily, every school teacher does something to form the character of our children for the part they are to act in human society. Every teacher is helping educate them for the solemn duties of patriots and freemen in the nation. In this responsibility of a school teacher, some maturity in age and judgment, and some sobriety are needed, that *he* or *she* may persuade their pupils to practice all that is good, and shun all that is evil.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

The law requires the Prudential Committee to hire the teachers, provide board, furnish fuel, make such occasional repairs as may be necessary, not exceeding 5 per cent. of the school money of the district, and notify the Sup. Committee of the beginning and close of schools.

SUPERINTENDING COMMITTEE.

The law requires this committee to examine, license, and dismiss teachers;—to prescribe the studies to be pursued in the schools, select the text books, to visit and inspect the schools and direct their management.

In accordance with one item of this duty of Town committee, I have aimed to remove an existing evil in regard to one of our text books. Teachers and scholars complained of the Geography in use, as being difficult and tiresome. The study of it seemed a waste of time and patience. The remedy has been found, in introducing Warren's Geography in place of Guyot's and Cornell's old edition, which had been *partially* in use. Warren's Geography is now the standard in our schools and has given great satisfaction to all who have used it. One and another has said ;—"we like this Geography much better than the other, 'cause we can understand it easier."

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

We have endeavored the past year to raise the standard of our schools, in point of faithful teaching and discipline. We have assured teachers at the outset, of our sympathy and cooperation. But parents should remember that if they would have their schools well taught and governed, they should select competent teachers, and then encourage them in their work. Good government at home will shape the child for his place in school, to respect himself and teacher there. But teach your child to trifle with *school law* and to be smart against the teacher, and you prepare that child to rebel against *civil law*! Parents should also remember that our schools are *public institutions*; and when they send their child to school, they have no right to interfere with the regulations of the school room, (unless in extreme cases,) nor to dictate to teacher or committee, what book the child shall read, or how many lines get for a lesson.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

Common respectability in behalf of some districts, and common convenience in behalf of the scholars there, *beg* for a little repair on *that* school house.

In *two districts* at least, a whole winter term has passed, where the inside door had no fastening except a wedge-stick stuck in by the last scholar going in or out! What parent would be patient to *enjoy* such convenience in shutting his own door at home all winter? "A word to the wise is sufficient."

Respectfully submitted by your Superintending Committee,
J. HALL.



